

PATENT



GP 3727
RI-61182/RBC/VEJ
Application No. 09/375,164

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#7
K. Cobb
3/12/01

In re application of:

Brian M. Adams *et al.*

Application No. 09/375,164

Filed: **August 16, 1999**

For: **SPILL-REDUCTION CAP FOR
FLUID CONTAINER**

Examiner: **Stephen K. Cronin**

Art Unit: **3727**

Docket No.: **RI-61182/RBC/VEJ**

CERTIFICATE OF MAIL (37 CFR 1.8(A))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on March 1, 2001.

Grace de Bos
Grace de Bos

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This Information Disclosure Statement is hereby submitted in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98 and pursuant to Applicant's continuing duty under 37 CFR 1.56 to bring any information which may be material to patentability of this application to the Examiner's attention. It is further understood that the Examiner will also consider information that was cited or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in a prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. Notice of April 20, 1992, 1138 OG 37-41, at 37.

Applicant makes no representation that a complete search has been conducted by the Applicant, or that there is not possibly more relevant art. Applicant also makes no representation that the information submitted herewith is in fact material. The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. Notice of January 9, 1992, 11 O.G. 13-25, at 25.

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Applicants have checked the appropriate boxes below.

- ☐ 1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of a national application, within three months of the date of entry of a national stage, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). No fee is required.
- ☒ 2. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the period set forth in above, but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c).
- ☒ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1). No fee is required.
- ☐ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2). No fee is required.
- ☐ c. Attached is our Check No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____ in payment of the fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p).
- ☐ 3. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the periods set forth above, but before payment of the Issue Fee. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). Submitted herewith is our Check

No. _____ in the amount of \$180.00 in payment of the Information Disclosure fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p). Notice of September 19, 2000, 1238 O.G. 77-161, at 101.

- ☐ a. I hereby state that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(1).
- ☐ b. I hereby state that no item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to my knowledge after making reasonable inquiry, was known to any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)(2).
- ☐ 4. This Application relies on the earlier filing date of prior Application No. _____, filed _____, under 35 U.S.C. § 120. It is understood that the Examiner will consider information that was submitted to or cited by the Office in such prior applications. Notice of April 20, 1992, 1138 OG 37-41, at 37. Copies of documents previously submitted to or cited by the Office in the prior application are not required to be provided in this application and thus are not attached. 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d).
- ☐ 5. A concise explanation of the relevance of the non-English language document(s) appears below:
- ☐ 6. The document(s) was/were cited in a search report by a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application. Submission of an English language version of the search

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report that indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office is provided in satisfaction of the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance. 1138 OG 37, 38.

☐ 7. The Examiner's attention is directed to co-pending U.S. Patent Application No. _____, filed _____, which is directed to related technical subject matter. The identification of this U.S. Patent Application is not to be construed as a waiver of secrecy as to that application now or upon issuance of the present application as a patent. The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the cited application and the art cited therein during examination.

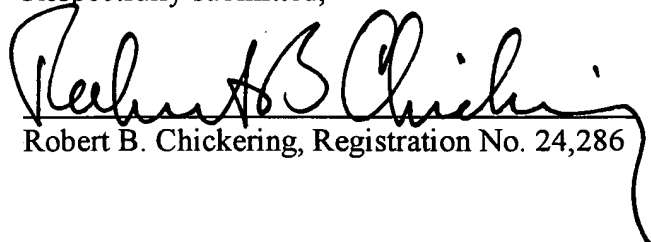
☐ 8. The fees indicated above are:

Total Fees Due: \$ _____.00

☒ 9. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any underpayment of the following fees associated with this communication, including any necessary fees for extension of time, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 06-1300 (RI-61182/RBC/VEJ).

Date: 3/1/01

Respectfully submitted,


Robert B. Chickering, Registration No. 24,286

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